THE TOKEN HUNTER

A Publication of the *National Utah Token Society*

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September 1990

Dedicated to Collecting, Recording, and Preserving Medals and Tokens

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Next Meeting
SEPTEMBER

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

★ Club Events ★

SEPT 27: SUE TURPELA
OCT 6-7: TINTIC MINING DISTRICT
OCT 25: STEPHEN L. CARR

SEPTEMBER'S MEETING IS THE 27th AT 7:15p.m. AT THE REDWOOD MULTIPURPOSE CENTER, 3100 SOUTH REDWOOD ROAD, SLC, UT

★ PRIZES ★

Hemenway & Moser, Ogden, UT, GF 5¢ in trade
Moroni Co-Op, Moroni, UT, GF 5¢ in Msde.
Paul's Place, Midvale, UT, GF 5¢ in trade
Garfield Trading Co., Garfield, UT GF 5¢ in trade
H&M #16 Store, SLC, UT, GF 25¢ in trade
Hooper Amusement, Hooper, UT, GF 5¢ in trade
Saltair Pavilion Madson Ams., Great SL, UT, GF 5¢ in trade

DOOR PRIZE:
Center Street Pool Hall, Magna, UT, GF 5¢ in trade.

TOKEN HUNTER EDITOR NOTES:

The summer picnic was nice and the food delicious. Everyone seemed to be having a good time. I'd like to thank Mr. Donald Getz for his article on "Some Camels, Lots of Salt and Comstock". It is very interesting and I'm sure you will all enjoy reading the article. The last half of the article will be in October's Token Hunter. We'd also like to welcome several new members:

Dan & Mary VanWagenen, West Valley City, UT
Judd Kenney, Salt Lake City, UT
Bill Brown, Murray, UT
Robert Dobson, All About Coins
Mark Kasteler, All About Coins
D. J. White, Salt Lake City, UT

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The year is really flying by fast. Only three more months until Christmas and new club officers.

We had a good turn out for the club picnic and the food was delicious, especially that corn. "Thank you", to all who participated. We only have one more club trip, which is to the Tintic Mining District. Quite a few members have been frequenting the dumps down there, ever since the weather turned good in the spring. They must be finding something or they wouldn't keep going back.

The speaker for this month's meeting will be Sue Turpela. Bill and Sue have commented about the dolls they have found while out screening. Sue is bringing some of them to the meeting and will tell us all about how and where she got them.

The speaker for October's meeting will be Stephen L. Carr, author of "The Historical Guide to Utah Ghost Towns", "Holladay-Cottonwood Places and Focus" and co-author of "Utah Ghost Rails".

I would like to thank Julie Gold for the good work she does as our club secretary and for filling in on some of Ralph's duties while he is so busy with school. She is always at the meeting, helping with the drawings, taking care of memberships and whatever is needed. "Thank you" Julie, for all the help.

Just a reminder the Utah Nusmismatic Society is hosting the 27th Annual Utah State Coin Show September 28, 29, & 30 1990, at the Utah State Fair Grounds Fine Arts Building. The hours on Friday and Saturday are 10:00 to 8:00 and Sunday 10: to 4:00. Admission is free so come one and all and help support this show,.

Don't forget, the Christmas dinner and all the prizes are only three months away.

See you at the meeting.

BYRON

The 27th Annual

UTAH STATE COIN SHOW

SEPTEMBER 28, 29 & 30, 1990

UTAH STATE FAIR GROUNDS
FINE ARTS BUILDING

HOURS:
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
10:00 to 8:00
SUNDAY
10:00 to 4:00

The Tintic Mining District

OVERVIEW OF EUREKA FROM THE SOUTH, JUNE 1982 (PHOTO BY G. B. PETERSON)

The Tintic mining region, located in a desert mountain range and adjacent valleys in Utah and Juab counties, is at current prices the second largest historic producer of metals in Utah. The high silver content of its base metal ores, commonly accompanied by unusually high gold content, has made the district famous in western history. As of 1959, it ranked 20th in the U.S. as a gold producer. Next to Bingham, whose production of gold as a byproduct of copper overshadows all other districts, Tintic ranks second in Utah gold production while Mercur, 30 miles to the northwest, has produced half as much. In silver production it holds first place, followed closely by Park City.

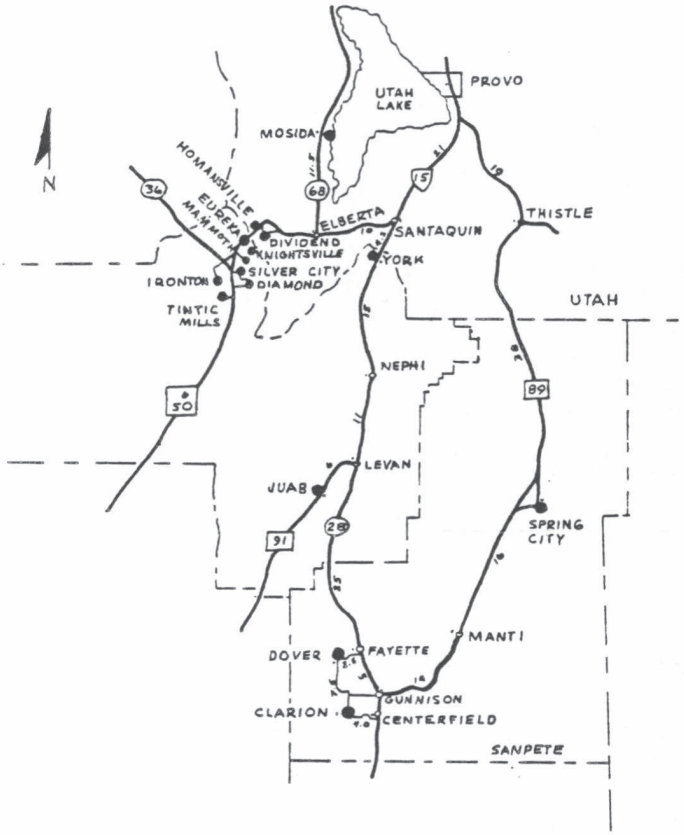
The commercial center of the Tintic mining district is Eureka, a town of 670 people in 1980. It lies in Juab County, just west of the Utah County line. Mammoth, is in a gulch 5 miles to the south and west, has a dozen houses set among old mine dumps, while the outlying villages of Tintic Junction, Elberta, and Goshen are supported by both rances and miners' paychecks. Some description of the fine, old architecture and the history of the once prosperous mining district were recently captured in a publication by Notarianni.

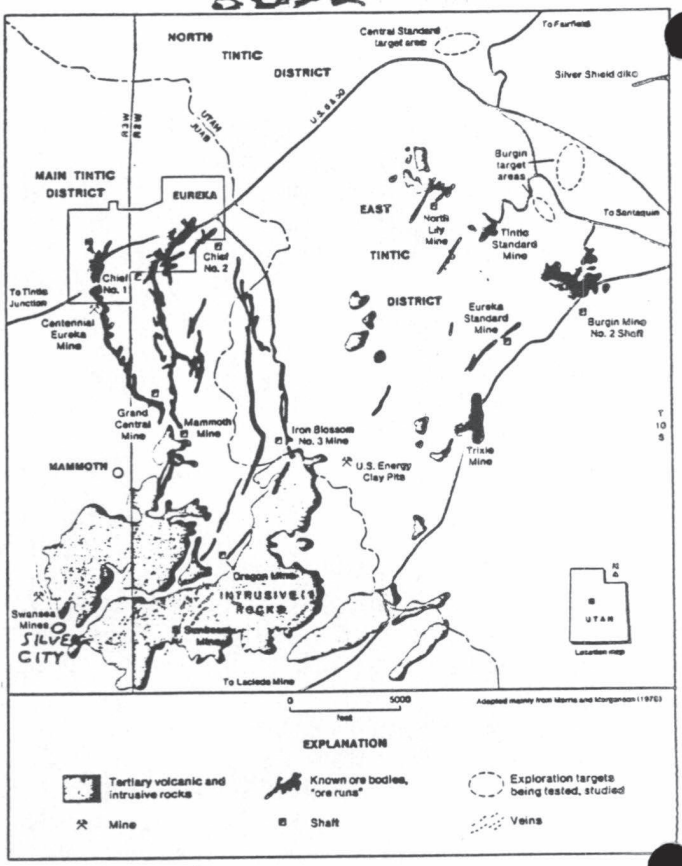
The Tintic district proper, as delineated a century ago by miners, has yielded nearly all of the metal production. Most authors have used an arbitrary division of the Tintic district into the East Tintic and Main Tintic mining areas along a north-south meridian of longitude 112 05'. The area north of the drainage divide, in western Utah County, is known as the North Tintic district, and has yielded small tonnages of oxidized zinc ores. The West Tintic mining district lies seventeen miles southwest of Eureka, on the west side of the West Tintic Mountains and the alluvium-filled Tintic Valley. (Reprinted by permission Utah Geological

THE TRIP TO TINTIC

Yes, the year is not yet done for the wonderful NUTS outings. **October** brings us to the local desert with the trip to the Tintic mining district and the towns of **Eureka, Mammoth, Dividend, Knightsville, Diamond, and Silver City** (among others). This is one of Utah's most famous mining districts, so little needs to be said about the area, but we are reprinting several pages from the UGMS update on Tintic just in case some of you recently moved here from Outer Mongolia or Southern California

We will leave the Multipurpose Center on **Saturday, October 6 at 8:30 a.m.** sharp with the even sharper **Greg Manos** at the helm of our caravan. We will converge on **SILVER CITY** (five miles south of Eureka) before heading out into the boonies for ticks and tokens. There should be some good camping places around Silver City for those roughing it, and there is a small motel in Eureka for the tenderfeet who plan to stay overnight.





DIAMOND SALOON/ D. A. Smyth/ 3mm hole/ (Ogden)
Rev GF 5¢ IT/ Rd/ WM/ 21mm
HR7 $55 - 65

Saloon 1900-15 - In 1916-17 was known as 'Diamond Sample Room'. Located at 240 25th Street, Ogden. D. A. Smyth was also known at Devil's Slide in 1908-09.
See also 'The Diamond'.

The Tintic mining district all started when a cowboy, in 1869, exhibited a chunk of silver ore taken from the soon to be Silver City area. The stampede that followed located many more strikes and the Tintic District was established. This name was in honor of old Ute Indian Chief Tintic who had lived in the area all his life. The Tintic District includes Eureka, Silver City, Mammoth, Diamond and Tintic Mills, Ironton, Homansville, Knightsville

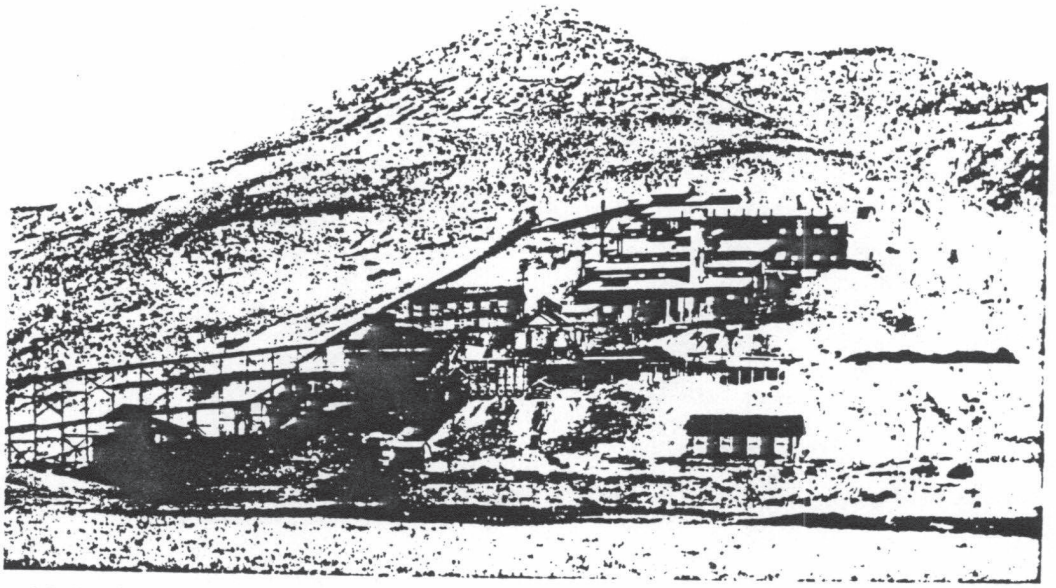
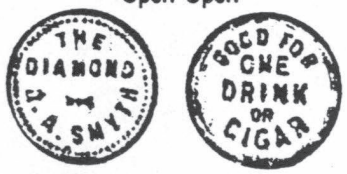


FIGURE 9. The Harold reduction mill of the Tintic Standard Mining Company in the 1920s (c.f. fig. 5). A. P. Mogenson collection.

EUREKA SALOON/ GF 12 1/2¢/ IT/ At/ The Bar/ (Eureka)
Rev Pictorial of Mormon Temple/ Rd/Al/ 24mm
HR10 $400 - 500

Example has a small hole. 'The Eureka Hotel' was located on Main Street, at the west end of Eureka. The saloon was inside the hotel. Early 1900's, was known as 'Headquarters for traveling men'. Mr. F. W. Lamb, prop.

DIAMOND/ THE/ D. A. Smyth/ (Ogden)
Rev GF One Drink or Cigar/ Rd/ WM/ 21mm
Open Open



See also under 'Diamond Saloon', D. A. Smyth

All above dollar and rarity figures are subject to change

HANSEN, E. G./ The/ Druggist/ Eureka,Utah
Rev GF 12 1/2¢ IT/ Rd/ Br/ 21mm
HR6 $12 - 24

1903-15 Located on Main Street, Eureka, known as 'The Tintic Drug Store'. Emilus G. Hansen. 1908-09 also listed in Robinson (Mammoth).

DIAMOND/ SALOON/ (Diamond, Utah)
Rev GF 12 1/2¢ Drink or Cigar/ Rd/Br/ 25mm
HR10 Open

Ghost town. This token was dug in Diamond. No details are known.

Information: This ghost town was started in 1869. One of the early mining camps of the 'Tintic' area, it had the first amusement hall in the district run by the Bufford Brothers for dances and socials. The last building was removed from Diamond in 1923. In it's heyday, it had 4 stores, 3 hotels, a post office, and 5 saloons. CAUTION: THIS AREA HAS MANY OLD MINE SHAFTS.

Some Camels, Lots of Salt And The Comstock

By

Donald E. Getz

Silver has been valued since prehistoric times for ornamation and as a medium of exchange. The myriad uses of the metal makes it one of the most versatile known to man because of its special alloying properties. Silver is also an excellent electrical and heat conductor and sensitivity to light as in the photographic industry. Because the silver ores of the Once-fabulous Comstock Lode in Virginia City, Storey County, Nevada, contained large amounts of sulphides admixed with native gold, antimony and copper, a way had to be found to recover one of the most valuable metals. This was especially so as the silver was in a seemingly, never ending supply, the ratio being three to one over antimony, copper and gold.

Early metalurgical practices at the Comstock required vast amounts of sodium chloride (salt), and had to be purchased and freighted from San Francisco, California, over the high Sierra Nevada Mountains to Virginia City at a cost of $150.00 a ton. There was no guarantee that the processing mills there would get dry salt and delivery dates never were on schedule.

The high cost of the salt and the outrageous shipping charges for awhile, threatened to slow future development of the Lode or stop production entirely. The mine owners and the stockholders were about ready to pull their hair out by the roots unless a new source of salt was found nearby.

In 1861, an enterprising young man by the name of Rhodes located a fairly-large salt deposit at a marsh in Mineral County, Nevada (formerely esmeralda). The distance from what he called, "Rhodes March" was about 125-miles south-southeast

of Virginia City. Rhodes guaranteed delivery in three days as against that of three weeks from San Francisco. and to cap off that bit of good news, he would only charge $60-a ton, delivered dry. Haulage was by a long string of pack mules, each animal capable of carrying a hundred-fifty pounds.

Always on the lookout for other salt deposits, Rhodes found one at Sand Springs which was about 60-miles east of the Comstock Lode and a few degrees north of Present-day Interstate 80 (I-80). Because mush of the route had to cross the "Dreaded Forty-Mile Desert" with its alkali-laced waters and heavy, powder-thin alkali dust, Rhodes' pack mules perished as had hundreds of emigrants and their oxen during the initial gold rush of the early 1850's. But in 1862, Rhodes imported a herd of 60-Dromedary camels to caravan the Sand Springs salt to The Comstock Lode at $50-a ton, delivered dry. The trek only took a day and a half and the mills with their smelters went back into full production, making mine owners and especially the stockholders quite happy.

Evolution Of The Washoe Process

Right about here, the reader is going to ask, just as sure as God made little green apples. "Why use sodium chloride in the silver recovery process? Why not use some other chemical element?"

Early metallurgists, after many trials and error tests learned that chlorine worked best to separate silver from other ,imerals. Chlorine is a gaseous chemical and is a chloride combined with sodium which is a metallic element, which was initially discovered about 1774. Chlorine gas in itself was quite expensive in the 1850's as it had to be imported from a Foreign country and there was no guarantee of shipment.

Past experience had been with shipping containers that leaked their contents while at sea and many ship Captains refused to transport chlorine gas aboard ship because of that leakage. The fumes took heavy toll on the seamen. Necessity being the Mama of Invention and sodium chloride or common table salt was the answer. Salt was in a plentiful supply, inexpensive up

until the "gougers" in San Francisco learned that their salt was to be used in refining silver ore. These highly-mercenary buggers wanted a fat slice of the Comstock's silver pie, thus the high cost of their salt.. This was when Rhodes caravaned into Storey County and Virginia City with his dromedaries and saved the Comstock.

The Washoe Process, so called because it was first tested and proven at the Dall Mill in Wadsworth, Washoe County, Nevada. The Dall Mill was selected mainly because William C. Ralston and his ring of Flim-Flam men help a monopoly on the stamp mills (crushers) and smelters in Virginia City where the "art of gouging was born." Dalls' fees were nominal and the poorer mine owners could afford the charges and still make a small profit.

The Washoe Process called for silver sulphide ores to be wet-crushed in large, stamp mills, using large amounts of water to control the dust. The newly-crushed ore was then conveyed to a long, large-diameter, revolving cylinder called a "dry kiln" and the ores were tumble-dried. They were again conveyed to a battery of fine crushers until the ore could pass through a number 60-mesh screen and conveyed once more to another long, revolving cylinder where large amounts of salt were added to the crushed-"fines" and subjected to intense heat. The heat converted the silver sulphides to a chloride in the presence of salt. The roasting took care of the sulphur by burning it. The fumes passed up a chimney to dissipate into the atmosphere.

After the concentrates passed through the roaster, they were conveyed to a large iron bin while still hot to remain until chloridization was complete (usually in four to eight hours). The silver salts, through a chain reaction, chemically separated themselves leaving the antimony and copper which was sent to the mine dumps (tailings pile). Any gold that may have been present in the silver ores, became molten and was siphoned off, ladled and poured into ingot molds. After cooling they were stamped with the mine owners' Hallmark, stored until the silver was processed and both valuable metal ingots were shipped to the Mint in San Francisco.

(to be continued next month)

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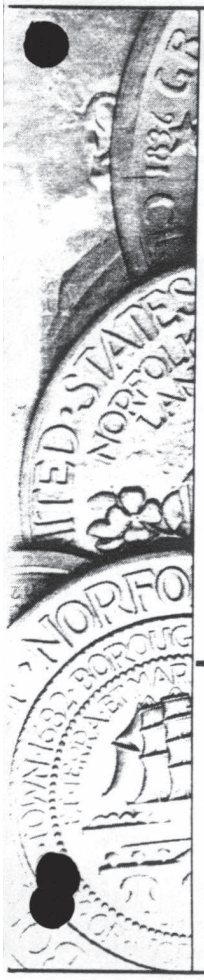

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